GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2000
LAW ORDER IN A & N ISLANDS
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andaman and Nicobar Islands are facing grave threats from Poacher, drug and gun runners and criminals operating from South Asia;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to check the menace?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): No, Sir. However, there have been cases in which poachers from some foreign countries were found engaged in poaching activities and in one recent case a group of foreign nationals was apprehended near Land Fall Island and a sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition was seized from them.

(c): The steps taken to check the menace of poaching include:

(i) Regular surveillance in the sea adjoining A&N Islands by Coast Guard ships and aircrafts;

(ii) Conducting joint anti-poaching operations by Navy, Coast Guard and A&N Police;

(iii) Setting up of four anti-poaching squads by the A&N Police and their deployment at Campbell bay, Nancowry, HutBay and Diglipur;

(iv) Strengthening of Police Marine Force by creation of additional posts and purchase of speed boats and vessels; and

(v) Holding of a State Level Security Coordination meetings every month to review the measures taken to deal with the poachers and other matters relating to internal security.